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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE      Newspapers as indicated.

BEGIN SEAL, MUSKRAT HUNTING

SEAL HUNTING STARTS IN CASPIAN -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 210, 26 Oct 49

A large number of seals come to hibernate each fall on the many little island in the northeastern part of the Caspian Sea, between Gur'yev and the Buzachi Peninsula. At present, a seal-hunting flotilla of 15 ships has come here from Fort Shevchenko. Among the ships is the Krasnyy Vodnik.

MUSKRAT CATCHING UNDER WAY IN SYR-DARYA -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 210,  
26 Oct 49

Kzyl-Orda -- Large-scale catching of muskrats has begun in the lower regions of the Syr-Darya. The muskrat, brought to this area 15 years ago, has acclimatized well and has settled in many inlets and lakes in the river delta. It is now to be found 400 kilometers upstream from the mouth of the Syr-Darya. Over 300 hunters are now engaged in this industry. Collection centers have already received the first several thousand muskrat skins.

KURILE WHALING SHOWS GOOD RESULTS -- Sovetskaya Moldaviya, No 163, 17 Aug 48

Whaling is in progress off the shores of the Kurile Islands. The whaling ship *Musson* has been very successful in fulfilling catch quotas. The whale-processing combine located in the settlement of Kitovy fulfilled the half-year plan for 1948. The state has received several thousand tons of first-grade whale fat and tens of thousands of pud of meat.

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**CLASSIFICATION**

**SECRET**

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